

REMARKS

Claim 1 is amended by adding descriptive language to the preamble. Support for the amendment is found on page 3, lines 5 and 6. Claim 1 is further amended by adding weight percent ranges to components (A), (B), and (C). The range for (A) finds support on page 3, line 26; for (B) on page 4, line 9; and (C) on page 4, line 11.

The preamble of claim 6 is amended in the same manner as claim 1. Component (B) in claim 6 is amended to recite the same value as component (B) in claim 1.

Claims 8 through 12 are withdrawn as drawn to a non-elected invention. No change in inventorship is required by the withdrawal of claims 8 through 12.

No new matter is added by way of amendment. Reconsideration and reexamination of the claims as amended are requested.

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTIVE REQUIREMENT

Applicants affirm their election of Group I, claims 1 through 7 and withdraw the traversal.

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REJECTION UNDER 35 USC 102

Claims 1 through 5 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by US Patent No. 4,321,166 (hereinafter '166). Applicants respectfully traverse. To anticipate a claim a single reference must contain all the elements of the claim. In addition, the reference must clearly and unequivocally disclose the claimed invention without any need for picking, choosing and combining various disclosures in the references. As amend the claims of the present invention require three (3) components within specific ranges. The components of the claimed invention include from 30 to 90 wt% of a water soluble organic solvent, from 3 to 10 wt% of a sulfonic acid or its corresponding salt and from 5 to 50 wt% water. The '166 patent discloses that it requires from 1.0 to 75% water, from 20 to 75% of a detergent that could include a linear alkylsulfonate and from 0.85 to 2.0% of a corrosion inhibitor system. The '166 reference further discloses additional optional components in col. 8, lines 24 through 37. The optional components include mention of an alkanolamine but fail to disclose how much is used or in what combination. Clearly the reference fails to set forth all the elements of invention in the specifically claimed range and to clearly and unequivocally disclose the claimed invention without any need for picking or choosing elements. The reference does not require the presence of a water soluble organic solvent in the specified range but rather provides an extensive list of optional ingredients that could provide for the inclusion of alkanolamine in some unspecified amount. In view of the deficiencies of the cited reference withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 through 5 under 35 USC 102(b) is requested.

Claims 1 through 3 and 5 through 7 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 5,972,862 (hereinafter '862). Applicants respectfully



traverse the rejection. As stated above, in order to anticipate a claim a reference must provide each and every element in the exact manner as the claim. The '862 reference does disclose a surfactant that includes alkylbenzene sulfonic acid salts but again does not require their presence. Instead one skilled in the art is left to choose from a vast array of possible options that includes anionic surfactants and siliconic surfactants. In addition when present the reference teaches that the surfactant is used in amounts of from 0.001 to 1 wt%. Amounts of surfactants outside of this range are undesirable. The claims of the present invention as amended now require from 3 to 10 wt% of a sulfonic acid or its salt. Therefore, it is clear that the reference does not anticipate independent claims 1 and 6 of the present invention.


That being the case, the '862 reference cannot support anticipation of subsequent claims that depend from amended claims 1 and 6 because as dependent claims they embody all the limitations of the claims from which they depend. It should also be pointed out that the example in column 12, lines 15 through 19; being relied upon does not disclose the claimed invention. The cleaning composition consists of ammonium fluoride, propionic acid (organic acid), tetramethylammonium formate, dimethylformade (a water soluble organic solvent), EP-120A (a polyether type nonionic surfactant) and 46 wt% water. This example does not disclose the use of a sulfonic acid or its corresponding salt. In view of the deficiencies of the cited reference withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 though 3 and 5 through 7 under 35 USC 102(b) is requested.

Claims 1 through 5 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by US Patent No. 5,534,177 (hereinafer '177). Applicants respectfully traverse. Claim 1 is amended to contain limitations related to a range for the amount of each element present in the

claimed composition similar to independent claim 6. In view of the fact that the '177 reference contains no disclosure of the weight range limitations for the required elements of the claimed composition, this lack of teachings could not support anticipation, Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 through 5 under 35 USC 102(b) is requested.

Claims 1 through 4 and 6 through 7 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by US Patent No. 4,199,483 (hereinafter '483). Applicants traverse the rejection. The '483 reference is drawn to a heavy duty laundry detergent. As such it contains 20 to 75 wt% of a water soluble detergent surfactant. All the examples show a minimum of 30.2 wt% of a alkylbenzene sulfonic acid. The '483 reference makes no mention of weight percent ranges for a water soluble organic solvent, however, the examples show a combined total weight percent for alcohol and alkanolamine 9.5 wt%. If it is assumed that the alcohol is a water soluble organic solvent, these ranges are clearly outside of those in the presently claimed invention. In view of the deficiencies in the cited reference, applicants request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 through 4 and 6 through 7 under 35 USC 102(b).

Claims 1, 3 through 4, and 6 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by US Patent No. 6,232,283 (hereinafter '283). Applicants traverse. A single source must disclose all of the claimed elements arranged as in the claim. At no point in the reference is there a disclosure that teaches the combination of from 30 to 90 wt% of a water soluble organic solvent, 3 to 10 wt% of a sulfonic acid and 5 to 50 wt% of water. In general the '283 reference teaches 0.1 to 50 wt% of specific glyceryl-ether compounds, 0.01 to 30 wt% of a surfactant that can be comprised of any of the class of anionic surfactants and cationic surfactants, 0.01 to 30 wt% of a builder or alkali agent and the remainder water.

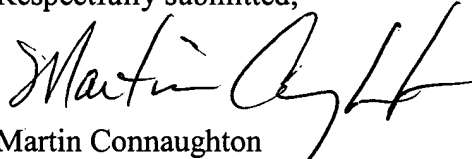


Specifically, in the examples in Tables 1 through 3 the reference does not disclose a composition containing a sulfonic acid or its corresponding salt in any amount and discloses compositions containing water in amounts of not less than 82 percent if one assumes the values given to represent weight percent. Clearly this is not a disclosure of the presently claimed invention. In view of the shortcomings of the cited reference, Applicants request the withdrawal of the rejection under 35 USC 102(e).

The prior art made of record and not relied on lacks various elements and/or components of the presently claimed invention and at best represents background art.

Claims 1 and 6 are amended. Claims 8 through 12 are cancelled as drawn to an unelected invention. Withdrawal of the rejections of all claims as amended is requested. Allowance of the claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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August 25, 2003
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